TRAVEL THE Oodnadatta Track

FREE MUDMAP FROM

Pink Roadhouse OODNADATTA

Your mates in the bush!

NORTH TO ULURU, ALICE SPRINGS, DARWIN

Kulgera
Lambert Centre
Finke
New Crown Stn
Charlotte Ruin
Binns Track to OLD ANDADO
NT BORDER
Mt Dare
Abminga Ruin
Dalhousie Springs
Simpson Desert to Birdsville - 4 x 4
Federal Ruin
Bloods Ck
Oposum Waterhole
Ruins
Purni Bore
37° HOT POND FOR SWIMMING
Eringa Waterhole
OLD 'GHAN' RAIL
Witjira National Park Gate
Stevenson Ck Crossing
Pedirka Ruin
Mt Sarah Stn
Hamilton Stn
Hamilton Sandhills
Mintabie OPALS
Lambina OPALS
Marla RAA pool and motel
Coongra Ck Crossings
Wellbourne Hill
Oolarinna Ck
Kathleen Ck
Todmorden Stn
No 2 Bore
Wooldridge Ck
Tower
Fogartys Claypan
Macumba Stn
Alberga Ck
No 1 Bore
Mallee Scrub
Oodnadatta
PUSH THE ENVELOPE! MAIL A CARD FROM OUR POST OFFICE!
Allandale Stn
North Ck bridge
Hanns Ck bridge
Plantation Sandhills
Mt Dutton Ruins
Algebuckina bridge & waterhole
Nth Peake Ruins
Peake Ck
Peake Ruins
Mt Fox
Peake Stn
Nilpinna Stn
Warrina
Edwards Ck
Duff Ck Rail Bridge
Duff Ck Siding
Old Woman Ck
Anna Ck Crossing
Box Ck
Boorthanna Ruins
Rocky Dam
William Ck joyflights
O.T Memorial
Anna Ck Stn
Lake William
Cadney Roadhouse pool and motel
Copper Hills private
Arckaringa Stn (ACCOMMODATION)
Painted Desert
New Ghan railway
Evelyn Downs cattle
Mt Barry cattle
Moon Plain
Coober Pedy
TO Pt.
Lake Eyre Nth Track
Memorial to Caroline Grossmueller
Lake Eyre
Strangways Ruins
Coward Springs CAMPGROUND
Irrapatana Sandhills
Big Red Beautiful
Kewson Hill
Beresford Dam
Stuart Ck Rail Bridge
Lake Eyre Sth Lookout
Bopeechie
Mulooriana
Hermit Hill
Callanna
Wabma Kadabu
Mound Springs
Alberrie Ck
Margaret Ruin
Curdimurka Ruin
Hamilton Hill
Mallee Scrub
Wangianna
Screech Owl Ck
Dog Fence Pole Ck
Stuart Ck Stn
Borefield Rd
Marree
BIRDSVILLE TRACK
STRZELECKI TRACK
To Birdsville & Mungeronnie
To Innamincka & Cameron Corner
TO FLINDERS RANGES, PT AUGUSTA, ADELAIDE

TRAVEL THE OODNADATTA TRACK

Quick, safe, FUN!

181,000 Printed

Map not to scale

Subject to change without notice.

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"Ring us first before you leave home, or later on - whether you intend to visit us or not" - Pink Roadhouse

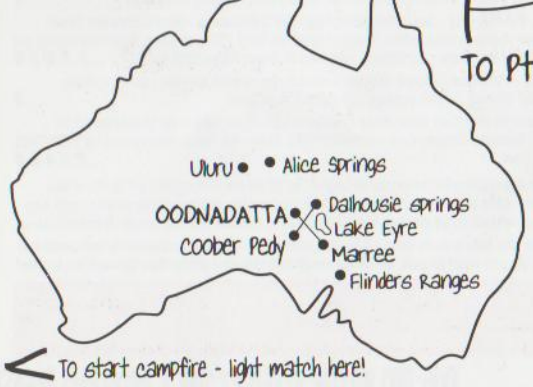
1800 802 074

Ph: 08 8670 7822 Fax: 08 8670 7831

www.pinkroadhouse.com.au pinkroadhouse@bigpond.com

We have more detailed mudmaps;
or we recommend Westprint maps & audio tapes
www.westprint.com.au

The Oodnadatta Track is unsealed & subject to closure when very wet. Official road closure signs are occasionally inaccurate. We want to ensure you have a safe, dry journey so use our 24 hour TOLL FREE number to double check conditions.



To start campfire - light match here!

Oodnadatta Track

With the right advice from the friendly team at the Pink Roadhouse, you'll be ready for the "ride of a lifetime" on Australia's greatest outback route. Travelling the Ghan Heritage Trail, here's a little detail on some of the things you'd see on the Oodnadatta Track to make the most of your journey. But watch for those unflagged surprises!

Pink Roadhouse Oodnadatta

UHF CHANNEL *(Duplex)* ↓

POINTS OF INTEREST (s) denotes signposted feature

ABMINGA - BEAUT Ghan railway building ruins on 'New Crown' Station ...6

AERIAL TOWER - You'll see plenty of Telstra telephone relay microwave towers 70m high

AIR CHARTER TOURS - See Lake Eyre, Dalhousie or just go home quickly? Wrightsair 08 8670 7962 www.wrightsair.com.au - Opal Air, Coober Pedy 08 8670 7997

ALBERRIE CREEK (s) - Ghan rail buildings, occupied - big, interesting sculptures ...**NONE**

ALGEBUCKINA (s) - Large railway bridge & waterhole - popular fishing & camping on 'Peake' Station...**6 & 7**

ALICE SPRINGS - Accessible via Finke, Marla & Old Andado from Oodnadatta

ALLANDALE (s) - Famous cattle station between Algebuckina & Oodnadatta (Clarke - 08 8670 7806) ...7

ANNA CREEK (s) - Large cattle station - you'll drive through from Beresford to Boorthanna - Lake Eyre nearly to Coober Pedy - S. Kidman & Co. - 08 8670 7978 ...**1,2,3,6 & 8**

ANNA CREEK CROSSING (s) - Most creeks in this area have suitable shady campsites - no facilities - don't bury rubbish, dingoes dig it up again ...6

ARCKARINGA (s) - Cattle station - camping - firewood - 8km to Painted Desert (see P.D.) - indoor accommodation (08 8670 7992)...4

ARTESIAN BASIN - What makes the Oodnadatta Track unique is its flowing springs and bores, the reason for its traditional use as an Aboriginal trading route plus placement of the Oodnadatta Track and Ghan Railway...7

BERESFORD (s) - Ghan railway building, roofed - flowing bore & big dam - 'Anna Creek' ...3

BOREFIELD ROAD (s) - Joins Roxby to Oodnadatta Track, popular - unsealed - bitumen south from Olympic Dam mine - 'Stuart Creek' Station - BHP owns it - 08 8675 8320 ...**3, 6**

BOX CREEK - Like Anna Creek, runs west, but not often

BIRDSVILLE - 3 day drive from Oodnadatta via SIMPSON DESERT (650km) - must see Big Red - Info (US) 1800 802 074 - Caravan Pk 07 4656 3214 - Hotel 1800 620 373 - Nat.Parks 0746 563 272 - Police 07 4656 3220 ...**8 @ Birdsville**

BLOODS CREEK - Huge windmill at complicated junction in Witjira National Park ...**2, 6**

BOORTHANNA - Ditto siding hard to see - 'Nilpinna' 08 8670 7975 ...6

BOPEECHIE - Ditto north of intersection off Borefield Road - some old railway signs ...**NONE**

PINK ROADHOUSE TRAVEL TIP #1

Fit a UHF CB radio. Listen to (scan) all channels. DO NOT use channels 1 to 8 or 31 to 38 except in emergency. Calling strangers? Always identify the channel you are on - responsible users scan ALL UHF channels! see "UHF".

CADNEY ROADHOUSE - All facilities - pokies, pool, nightly "happy hour" - travellers start or finish their alternative Oodnadatta Track journey here to take in the Painted Desert - 08 8670 7994 ...7

CAIRNS - Sorry, sold to Japan

CAMELS - See 'em run wild at PURNI bore, tour overnight or up to 10 days on a saddled camel or attend Australia's only camel training camp. Phone Greg Emmett @ Coward Springs

CALLANNA (s) - Sheep station (Willouran Ranges visible south of Track) - (Morphett - 08 8675 8342) - old Ghan steam engine - water tank ...7

CHAMBERS PILLAR (s) - Accessible via Finke - Desert Race route north from Finke to Maryvale...**1,2 & 8**

COOBER PEDY - Population 3,000 - Opals - Good Food - Accommodation - Tours - Visitors Info Phone 1800 637 076 - 2 hours from Oodnadatta across the amazing Moon Plain ...8

COONGRA CREEK - Shady creeks with gravel road crossings & water sometimes - 'Todmorden' Station

COPPER HILLS (s) - Conservation Park - private ...7

COWARD SPRINGS - Campground with warm bore spa - shade - **firewood** - Camel Tours - (Greg & Pru Emmett - 08 8675 8336) - **see Wabima Kadabu Mound Springs** - Park nearby - www.cowardsprings.com.au ...3

CURDIMURKA - Ghan ruin with rails - former site of Outback Ball - Ghan Preservation Society, PO Box 3111, Rundle Mall, Adelaide SA 5000 - Good buildings - bridge - desalination tower - (Stuart Creek) ...3

DALHOUSIE SPRINGS - Hot water bathing in big ponds for winter - some facilities, occasionally Park Ranger - 3 hours from Oodnadatta by 4WD - Ranger station (08) 8670 7901 - 1800 816 078 ...**2,4,6 & 8**

DAMS - Cattle watering dams are not shown on this map, but can often be seen from the road. Please don't camp close to cattle - you are welcome to look, but don't scare them!

DARWIN - Not on this map mate!

DESERT - Oodnadatta Track may look like a desert, but there are plenty of water points. That's why it is safer.

DOG FENCE - A grid in a mesh dingo-proof fence marks the cattle country to the north, meeting sheep to the south - it's famously long and close to Pole Creek campsites

DUFF CREEK (s) - Good camping - do not bury rubbish - big shady creek - nice white sand for kids - Ghan railway bridge on 'Nilpinna' Station ...6

EDWARDS CREEK (s) - Sandy, shady creek - Old Ghan railway village ruins & bridge - desalination tower - if camping keep away from the 'Nilpinna' owned windmill & tank ...6

ERINGA WATERHOLE (s) - Beautiful cold waterhole & ruin of Sidney Kidman's 1st cattle property - shady - do not bury rubbish - 'Hamilton' Station (Williams - 08 8670 7960) ...**NONE**

FINKE (APUTULA) - 'Dry' Aboriginal settlement of 400. Tracks include fast road to Kulgera - north on Desert Race route to Alice via Chambers Pillar - Store 08 8956 0968 - Races 133068 ...2

POINTS OF INTEREST (s) denotes signposted feature

UHF CHANNEL *(Duplex)* ↓

FINNISS SPRINGS - Used to be a settlement and pastoral lease, now everyone lives at Alberrie Creek near the sculpture park ...**NONE**

FOGARTYS CLAYPAN (s) - Big & flat - an amazing photo opportunity "MY CAR WITH A BIG DUST CLOUD" ...8

GATES - Don't look for them, there is nothing but grids across the Track

GHAN RAILWAY - Built between 1890 & 1935, pulled up 1981 but left lots of buildings, cuttings & bridges as well as firewood sleepers. It's a linear musuem, please leave the interesting bits lying around where you see them

HAMILTON HILL - The flat top you aim for while heading for Wabma Kadarbu Park mound springs - The Bubbler & Blanche Cup near Coward Springs ...3

HAMILTON STATION - Cattle station (Williams - 08 8670 7960) - road splits one way east to Pedirka & Dalhousie, the other north across red soil plains to Eringa or Mt. Dare and Finke - NEW cabins & camping available ...**2, 4, 8**

HANNS CREEK (s) - Salty creek near a telephone repeater tower on 'Allandale'

HERMIT HILL - A fine bald hill near a mallee scrub & artesian springs east of the Borefield Rd intersection...**NONE**

IRRAPATANA SANDHILLS - Beautiful red sandhills (north of Warriners Creek), where the road was rebuilt in the 1980's atop the old railway line embankment - old sheep fences visible on clay pans ...**2 & 6**

KATHLEEN CREEK (s) - An occasional waterhole, shady campsite on 'Todmorden' Station turnoff ...**1**

KEWSON HILL- Active mound springs, unsignposted - the road goes through them - park & walk ...3

LAKE EYRE - Australia's lowest point - floods occasionally - quite a spectacle even from the road - strong winds spring up - people camp next to the old Ghan line to complete a pilgrimage to OZ's largest salt lake - Fly over it from William Creek or Marree ...**3 & 4**

LAKE WILLIAM - Salt lakes on either side of track with gypsum crystal sparkles ...2

LAMBERT CENTRE (s) - Geographical centre of Australia, west of Finke - a popular stopover

LAMBINA - Cattle station (Fennell - 08 8670 7930) - site of "7 Waterholes" opal field ...7

MAIL RUN TOUR - An 4WD full of happy travellers goes with the mail bags up the Oodna Track in a triangle from Coober Pedy twice a week, serves as a public bus and carries freight - 1800 069 911 - Book ahead

MARLA - All facilities - a new swimming pool - auto tyre inflation at bowsers 24 hours - 08 8670 7001...**4 & 7**

MARREE - South end of Oodnadatta Track - Hergott Springs - camel races annually - Police 08 8675 8346 - Oasis Cafe, Motel & Caravan Park 8352 - air joy rides - Internet Centre 8222 - Marree Caravan Park 8371 - Marree Post Office Store 8360 - Arabunna Tours 8351 - Marree Hotel MOTELCPARK 08 8675 8344 - sealed airstrip...**3,4, 7 & 8**

MARREE MAN - A mysterious graded out figure visible only by aircraft, creator unknown - Finniss Springs Station *(see Alberrie Creek)* - visible by air charter - Marree or William Creek

MACUMBA (s) - S. Kidman big cattle station on the edge of the Simpson Desert - 08 8670 7801 ...**6 & 8**

MARGARET RUIN - Crumbling beside road - 1800's Fettler's cottage - beautiful, desolate but keep clear - in sight of Hamilton Hill *(Stuart Creek Station)* ...3

MEMORIAL - Caroline Grossmueller, a Swiss traveller, perished here in Summer 1998 on the track to Lake Eyre North. Her death meant EPIRBs are now common in rental 4x4's ...4

MOON PLAIN (s) - An amazing bald plain 150 km south of Oodnadatta. Set location for many post-nuclear holocaust movies - great to get that profound desert feel, no, really! ...8

MOON PLAIN RD - (completed in 1974) joins Coober Pedy to Oodnadatta ...**4,7 & 8**

MOUND SPRINGS - (a.k.a. Wabma Kadabu) A MUST-SEE near Coward Springs Camp, good access track & beaut board walks

MT BARRY - Cattle station (Williams - 08 8670 7961) - turn-offs at separate points to Moon Plain Road...4

MT DARE - HOTEL - www.mtdare.com.au - rebuilt tourist facility - (Melissa & Dave Cox - 08 8670 7835) ...**2 & 6**

MT SARAH STATION - Cattle station (Williams - 08 8670 7951) - very pretty, but watch those bends! ...8

MULOORINNA (s) - Cattle/sheep station (Mitchell - 08 8675 8341) with a bore fed waterhole - toilets - famous as a base for Sir Donald Campbell's world land speed record at Lake Eyre in the 1960's ...7

MUNGERANNIE HOTEL - On the Birdsville Track - most facilities - bore-fed waterhole visible from the bar! (Phil & Pam - 08 8675 8317) - mungerannie hotel@bigpond.com ...2

PINK ROADHOUSE TRAVEL TIP #2

Leave roof racks & lifted suspension in Victoria (sorry).
Keeping the weight low aids stability & keeping the car standard aids reliability. Your 4WD will tow better on dirt with 4WD engaged. Remember to cover your rear window with cardboard & duct tape to avoid rock breakage when towing a trailer with a wagon.

NEW CROWN STATION (s) - Cattle (08 8956 0969) - straddles NT/SA border ...2

NILPINNA (s) - Cattle station (Williams - 08 8670 7975) in open gibber country below the Peake Denison Range...6

NORTH CREEK - Good, gravelly campsite under an old Ghan railway bridge in 'Allandale' Cattle Station - subject to flash-flooding occasionally ...7

NT BORDER - Not necessarily marked by signs but the look of the country changes in the territory with more monsoonal rain, sandier, redder country, more scrub, longer grass, Desert Oak trees

NUMBER ONE BORE - There are lots of bores and windmills on the track, but don't camp near them unless in emergency - on Todmorden Station property near Yardinna sign ...6

OLD WOMAN CREEK - Twisty road - nice gums - good camping ...6

OODNADATTA - Population 180 - historic Ghan railway town - basic conditions are the result of no local councils in outback SA - large aboriginal population in a freehold, low-crime town, lots of waterholes in the scrubby Neales Ck. nearby - big, sealed airstrip - museum - 6x4 Sandhill DRIVER TRAINING TRACK - night lit ball court & grass oval. We have a van park but if you agree not to leave rubbish or cut trees, 'wild' safe bush camping is OK on the 'town common'. ...7

Police 08 8670 7805 - Hotel 08 8670 7804 - **The Pink Roadhouse** & CARAVAN PARK **1800 802 074** - Hospital (Foot Tours) 08 8670 7803 - School (Foot Tours) 08 8670 7823

OODNADATTA TRACK - It's graded by State authority. Road signs may be faded or missing. It is probably in better condition, wider, with less corrugation than you'd imagine, but we recommend lower tyre pressures on heavy vehicles like 4WD's and that you drive with 4WD engaged, even though the road is OK for sedans. The route is the best outback drive in Australia 650 kms of variety and there's travellers from one to one hundred cars a day - each day, so no-one has yet perished on the road despite hot summers ...**1,2,3,4,6,7 & 8**

POINTS OF INTEREST (s) denotes signposted feature

UHF CHANNEL *(Duplex)* ↓

OOLARINNA CREEK (s) - Gidgea and gum tree shade on 'Todmorden' Station

OVERLAND TELEGRAPH (OT) - Joined Sydney to London with a morse message cable and manned repeater station in the 1870's after several surveys by John McDouall Stuart. The great engineering feat of its time. PEAKE & Strangways ruins are most substantial legacy, plus look for memorial a few kilometres south of William Creek.

PINK ROADHOUSE TRAVEL TIP #3

Most tyre damage on 4WDs here is due to to over inflation. Maximum off-bitumen pressure for the average, wide, tubeless tyre is 25psi - regardless of load, bib less on the front: see TYRE FAILURE.

PAINTED DESERT (s) - Many travelling go this way north & south or loop from Oodnadatta for pleasing short walks - coloured escarpments are rare here; if your photos wore hills out, these would be flat by now! Be here at dusk or dawn - visible from Arckaringa Homestead camping area. *See Arckaringa*...**4 & 7**

PEAKE RUINS (s) - The State Heritage Department and volunteers have stabilised this old village at the end of an entertaining 15 km drive. There is a copper mine and artesian springs too - please don't remove anything - good interpretive signage - no toilets ...**6 & 7**

PEAKE STATION (s) - S. Kidman & Co. Cattle (08 8670 7996) runs right down to Lake Eyre - it's big! ...**6 & 7**

PEAKE CREEK CROSSING (s) - Salty wet creek with steep banks - downstream is a good bridge near an old stone fettler's cottage ruin - 30 feet of water ran through here in 1989 ...6

PEDIRKA (s) - A Ghan railway ruin on Hamilton Station - Pedirka Track has public access and is usually the most weatherproof exit from Dalhousie Springs ...**2,4,6 & 8**

PHONES - Cellphones, even Next G won't work except on bits of the Stuart Highway. Satphones are found in many cattle station vehicles and all fuel tankers. Cardphone at Dalhousie

PINK ROADHOUSE & CARAVAN PARK - Internet - P.O. - TOWING - banking - EFTPOS - ensuite cabins...7

PURNI BORE - Very hot capped bore in Witjira Park - toilets and showers are used by desert crossers - National Parks attitute sometimes dictates turning off water bore valve due to public risk of boiling water, but this can destroy the wetlands - used by an amazing variety of migrating birds ...2

RECYCLING - In South Australia, "deposit" drink containers are valuable to local communities - SEPARATE them from your rubbish and sell them or leave at stores along the Track. Take rubbish to local dumps.

ROAD CLOSURES - Huge official signs are scary, but often wrong, so ring us for the real story - Will your car be OK? - When will the road open? - Are the creeks up or is it just slippery? - Is any rain on the radar? etc.

SCREECH OWL CREEK (s) - Popular campsite near railway bridge to shelter from wind

STEVENSON CREEK CROSSING - In Hamilton Station - big sandy creek & shady gums, water bore yard, good camp with permission when no cattle *(see Hamilton)* ...**6 & 8**

STRANGWAYS SPRINGS (s) - A village ruin on a hill of mound springs with interpretative signage - great desert view - wonderful walk a few hundred metres ...**3 & 6**

SIMPSON DESERT (s) - mostly visited in winter school holidays, but with satellite phones EPIRBS - summer travel is increasing - 1100 parallel sandhills - not difficult in average conditions in any 4WD - Remember for tubeless tyres in sand 20psi is a HIGH pressure! Another 5psi out will make a VAST DIFFERENCE!

...UHF ...Use Channel 10 and scan all channels for approaching traffic

PINK ROADHOUSE TRAVEL TIP #4

Add a bearing cap of oil to your trailer to double bearing life, plus if the seals fail you'll see the mess before it's too late! Always use 4WD off-bitumen especially when towing.

TODMORDEN STATION (s) - Cattle station (Lillecrapp 08 8670 7965) - takes in Pedrika Desert - exemplary management - aboriginals hunt here with good humour, no friction and good eating *(see Kathleen Creek)*...**1,6,7 & 8**

TYRE FAILURE - Is mostly avoidable - ring us quoting tyre size and rating - brand is irrelevant - we'll suggest a low pressure to provide maximum comfort and reliability thus saving *us* from boring tyre repairs. Trouble free off-bitumen tyre pressures are always lower on any vehicle, this is not some wierd rocket-science theory; we've had 30 years of experience from road trains to pushbikes - Roadtrains sometimes use 20psi!

WANGIANNA - Visible, roofed fettler's quarters ruins *(see Callanna)* - old Ghan railway ...7

WARRINA - Very ruined old Ghan railway cottages - cattleyards - north to elevated water-tank - road east leads to 'Peake' Station over grid - ruins on Nilpinna Station land - Thomas Elder Memorial ...6

WEATHER - Check up to 28 days ahead on **www.eldersweather.com.au** and add our **5734** into postcode box- it's pretty reliable

WELBOURNE HILL (s) - Cattle station (Samson - 08 8670 7970) - mostly Herefords ...6

WITJIRA NATIONAL PARK (s) - See Dalhousie Springs - 36°C swimming - adjoins Simpson Desert Park - very popular destination - camp-ground, toilets, Ranger Station 08 8670 7901 - facilities slowly developing but challenged in poor roads, signage and shade - Cardphone. Enquiries to Desert Parks 1800 816 078 ...**2,4,6 & 8**

WABMA KADABU (s) - Park near Coward Springs encloses the mound springs - good signage - 'Bubbler' and 'Blanche Cup' flowing mound springs in beautiful desolation ...3

WILLIAM CREEK - Town is very busy when there is water in Lake Eyre, otherwise population of 12 - famous Hotel (open 7 days) includes Caravan Park - Hotel 08 8670 7880 - Air Tours (Wrightsair) 08 8670 7962 email: wrightsair@bigpond.com ...**2,3,4 & 6**

UHF - Much of the Track is covered by repeaters that can increase the range of your CB, 100kms or more (see Travel Tip #1). All local residents use UHF at home and while working and some use satphones as well, so if you need help, find the local channel and transmit. Keep calling on any duplex channel you can find until you get an answer. Beeps show you are on a repeater. Don't use Channels 31 to 38 for convoys.

ULURU - Where lots of folks have been to or are going - believed by locals to be a big rock accessible via Oodnadatta then Cadney Park, or Marla or Finke. Big rock might be good, but all that straight open bitumen getting there can send you to sleep!

PINK ROADHOUSE TRAVEL TIP #5

As you drive on unsealed roads you scatter rocks. The faster you drive, the harder the tyre pressure, the heavier the trailer-the more rocks you propel - please SLOW when you approach another traveller so as not to damage them.

RING 1800 802 074 TO REPORT TRACK PROBLEMS PLEASE